

3. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [or 2], further including means for encoding the information signal prior to transmission.

4. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [or 2], further including means for encrypting the information signal prior to transmission.

5. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the means for encrypting is a function of the user-specific identification code inherent in the receiver card and a key obtained by the user on payment of the channel subscription.

6. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the receiver has an antenna operatively associated therewith.

7. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], further including means for compressing the information signal prior to transmission and means for decompressing the information after it has been downloaded.

8. (Amended) A system according to claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] where the transmission network [(12; 30; 32; 40; 52)] is a radio network.

9. (Amended) A method for facilitating the simultaneous transmission of information to multiple user bases [(14)] over a wireless communications network and for receiving, demodulating, downloading, and storing the information at the user bases [(14)] for subsequent retrieval, the method including the steps of collecting information from at least one content provider [(16)] through an Internet service provider [(18)]; classifying and grouping the information into channels; generating a modulated information signal for transmission; broadcasting the modulated information signal over a wireless transmission network; receiving the transmitted information signal at user bases via suitably tuned receivers; demodulating the received information signal; and storing the information for subsequent retrieval.